

**SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE  
AFFIDAVIT OF IDENTITY AND RECEIPT OF FILING**

PLEASE COMPLETE SECTIONS I, II, III AND IV BELOW (Print or Type) – See Reverse Side for Important Notifications

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## **SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE AFFIDAVIT OF IDENTITY**

All candidates seeking elective office in Michigan must submit an Affidavit of Identity (two copies) when filing. A candidate who fails to file Affidavits of Identity as required is ineligible to appear on the ballot (MCL 168.558 as amended under PA 163 of 2002).

### **A. CHANGE OF NAME**

Michigan election law, MCL 168.558, stipulates that a candidate who is “not using a name, whether a given name, a surname, or otherwise, that is not a name that he or she was given at birth” must indicate his or her full former name on the Affidavit of Identity. The requirement to indicate a name change on the Affidavit of Identity does *not* apply if:

- The candidate’s name was formally changed 10 or more years ago.
- The candidate’s name was changed in a Certificate of Naturalization issued by a federal district court 10 or more years ago.
- The candidate’s name was changed because of marriage.
- The candidate’s name was changed through divorce to a “legal name by which the individual was previously known.”

Michigan election law provides that a candidate required to indicate a name change on the Affidavit of Identity must be listed on the ballot “with his or her current name and former name as prescribed by the Secretary of State.” (MCL 168.560b)

### **B. APPEARANCE OF NAME ON BALLOT**

Michigan election law provides the following stipulations regarding the manner in which a candidate can have his or her name printed on the ballot:

- A candidate “may specify that both his or her given name and middle name, or only a middle name, shall appear on the ballot.”
- A candidate “may specify that either an initial or a recognized diminutive for the candidate’s given name or middle name, or for both, shall appear on the ballot.”
- A candidate may *not* use a “nickname that is not a recognized diminutive of the candidate’s given name or middle name” on the ballot.
- A married person may *not* use his or her spouse’s given name, middle name or a diminutive of his or her spouse’s given name or middle name on the ballot.

### **C. MAILING ADDRESS**

A candidate who wishes to receive communications from his or her filing official at an address other than his or her residential address should enter a “mailing address” where indicated. (Note: A candidate may list a P.O. Box for his or her “mailing address”; a candidate may *not* list a P.O. Box for his or her residential address.)

### **D. CAMPAIGN FINANCE ACT COMPLIANCE STATEMENT**

School board candidates are required to form a committee and meet the financial disclosure obligations provided under Michigan’s Campaign Finance Act, P.A. 388 of 1976. (An exemption is provided for those individuals who seek a school board position in a district with a pupil count of 2,400 or less. The exemption does not apply if the candidate spends or receives over \$1,000.00 for the election.) For further information on the disclosure requirements or the exemption, contact your local county clerk.

### **E. WITHDRAWAL OF FILING**

Candidates who wish to withdraw a filing submitted for an elective office must submit a written withdrawal statement to their filing official no later than the third day after the applicable filing deadline.